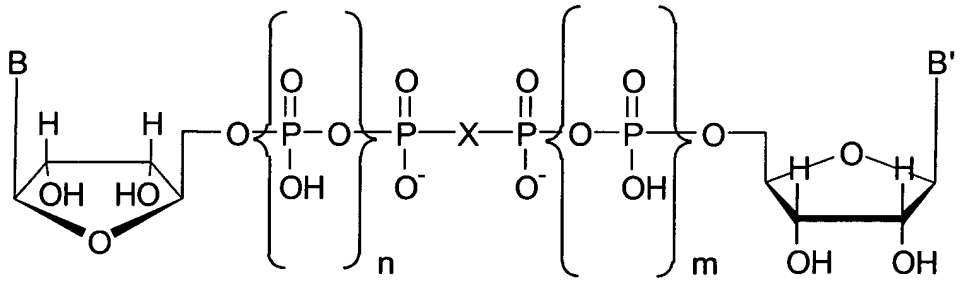
THE AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method of enhancing drainage of the lacrimal system comprising the step of administering to the eyes of a subject an effective amount of a preparation comprising a dinucleoside polyphosphate as depicted in Formulae II, ~~II(a) and II(b),~~ or ~~their~~ a pharmaceutically acceptable ~~salts~~ salt therof;

whereby said preparation is effective in enhancing drainage of the lacrimal system in the eyes in the subject:

FORMULA II



wherein:

X is oxygen, imido, methylene or difluoromethylene;

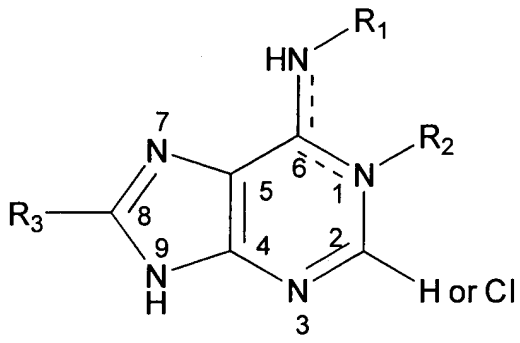
n = 0 or 1;

m = 0 or 1;

n + m = 0, 1 or 2; and

B and B' are each independently a purine residue, as in Formula IIa, or a pyrimidine residue, as in Formula IIb, linked through the 9- or 1-position, respectively:

Formula IIa



wherein:

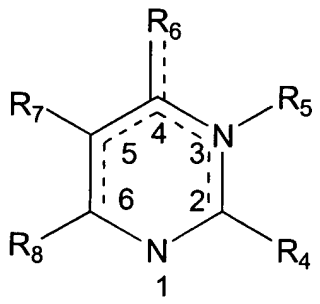
R_3 is H or NHR_1;

R_1 of the 6- or 8-HNR_1 groups is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, arylalkyl (C_{1-6}) groups[[;]], and alkyl groups with functional groups selected from the group consisting of carbamoylmethyl-, and ω-acylated-amino, hydroxy, thiol or carboxy derivatives, where the acyl group is selected from the group consisting of acetyl, ~~trifluroacetyl~~ trifluoroacetyl, benzoyl, and substituted-benzoyl;

R_2 is O or absent; or

R_1 and R_2 taken together form a substituted 5-membered fused imidazole ring;

Formula IIb



wherein:

R_4 is hydroxy, mercapto, amino, cyano, aralkoxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkylamino or dialkylamino, with the alkyl groups optionally linked to form a heterocycle;

R_5 is hydrogen, acyl, C_{1-6} alkyl, aroyl, C_{1-5} alkanoyl, benzoyl, or sulphonate;

R_6 is hydroxy, mercapto, alkoxy, aralkoxy, C_{1-6}-alkylthio, C_{1-5} disubstituted amino, triazolyl, alkylamino or dialkylamino, where the alkyl groups are optionally linked to form a heterocycle or linked to N^3 to form an optionally substituted ring;

R_7 is hydrogen, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, alkenyl with the alkenyl moiety optionally linked through oxygen to form a ring optionally substituted on the carbon adjacent to the oxygen with alkyl or aryl groups, substituted alkynyl, halogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, perhalomethyl, C_{2-6} alkyl, C_{2-3} alkenyl, or substituted ethenyl, C_{2-3} alkynyl or substituted alkynyl;

or together $R_6 - R_7$ form a 5 or 6-membered saturated or unsaturated ring bonded through N or O at R_6, such a ring optionally contains substituents that themselves contain functionalities; provided that when R_8 is amino or substituted amino, R_7 is hydrogen; and

R_8 is hydrogen, alkoxy, arylalkoxy, alkylthio, arylalkylthio, carboxamidomethyl, carboxymethyl, methoxy, methylthio, phenoxy or phenylthio.

2. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said method treats nasolacrimal duct obstruction.

3. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said compound is a compound of Formula I.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said compound is a compound of Formula III.

6. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said compound is a compound of Formula IV.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said administration involves topical administration of said compound via a carrier vehicle selected from the group consisting of drops of liquid, liquid wash, gels, ointments, sprays and liposomes.

8. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 7, wherein said topical administration comprises infusion of said compound to ~~said~~ an ocular surface via a device selected from the group consisting of a pump-catheter system, a continuous or selective release device, and a contact lens.

9. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said administration involves systemically administering a liquid or liquid suspension of said compound via nose drops, nasal spray, or nebulized liquid to oral or nasopharyngeal airways of said subject, such that a therapeutically effective amount of said compound contacts the eyes of said subject via systemic absorption and circulation.

10. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said administration involves systemically administering an oral form of said compound, such that a therapeutically effective amount of said compound contacts the eyes of said subject via systemic absorption and circulation.

11. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim [[9]] 1, wherein said administration involves systemically administering an injectable form of said compound, such that a therapeutically effective amount of said compound contacts the eyes of said subject via systemic absorption and circulation.

12. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim [[9]] 1, wherein said administration involves systemically administering a suppository form of said compound, such that a therapeutically effective amount of said compound contacts the eyes of said subject via systemic absorption and circulation.

13. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim [[9]] 1, wherein said administration involves systemically administering an intra-operative instillation of a gel, cream, powder, foam, crystals, liposomes, spray or liquid suspension form of said compound, such that a therapeutically effective amount of said compound contacts the eyes of said subject via systemic absorption and circulation.

14. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said compound is administered in an amount sufficient to achieve concentrations thereof on the ocular surfaces of said subject of from about 10^{-7} to about 10^{-1} moles/liter.

15. (Currently Amended) A method of enhancing drainage of the lacrimal system in eyes comprising the step of administering to the eyes an effective drainage-enhancing amount of P^1, P^4-di(uridine-5')-tetraphosphate, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

16. (New) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said method enhances clearance of the nasolacrimal duct.

17. (New) The method according to Claim 16, wherein said method treats nasolacrimal duct obstruction.